

# FACT SHEET

## The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Career Pathway

*"Mapping the future of today's technology industry"*

- GIS is a powerful computer-based technology that allows trained users to create, map, merge, analyze and manipulate spatial information as well as other types of data.
- Nationally, GIS is a rapidly growing field with applications in many areas of business and industry. The need for GIS employees is expanding in a wide range of fields such as city, town and regional planning, healthcare, military, advertising, transportation and natural resources.
- Many towns and cities have GIS projects that would be excellent work-based learning projects for a community or school partnership.

The Geographic Information Systems Career Pathway focuses on preparing students for careers in the continually evolving and expanding Spatial Information Technology Industry. GIS requires strong computer, communications and project management skills. Students will learn the basics of GIS, related software such as Global Positioning Systems and Remote Sensing, and GIS applications, including in the fields of:

- Natural Resources - Uses GIS applications for a given study area to answer questions such as "What type of wildlife habitat exists at a given location?"
- Health Care - Uses GIS applications to analyze the spread of a disease or to analyze population statistics to locate a new health clinic.
- Transportation - Uses GIS applications to strategize truck delivery routes or recommend road construction based upon accident sites.
- Homeland Security - Uses GIS applications with a variety of agencies to coordinate information and databases.

*More and more resources are becoming available to educators and schools who are interested in developing a GIS Career Pathway, including:*

The UNH Cooperative Extension  
in Durham  
NHCTC Berlin  
NH Arc View Users Group

NH GIS Database  
GRANIT  
Environmental Systems Research Institute

The North Country Region's GIS Educator Consultant is available to schools in the state.

### For More Information:

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at UNH

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US Geodetic Survey

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